THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT)SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. There is one such case.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The retiring employee was allottee of Rajya Sabha Quota accommodation, therefore, as such his ward was not eligible for the concession of regularisation as per rules.

Number of First Class and A.C. Free Passes

3678. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of First Class and A.C. Free Passes in circulation;

(b) the categories of people to whom such passes are provided;

(c) whether this large number of free passes has denied the ticket buying public a legitimate share of accommodation; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve accommodation availability to the ticket buying public ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the issue of Complimentary Card Passes, other than passes issued to Freedom Fighters. Only 52 First Class Complimentary Card Passes are in circulation as on 31st July, 1990. These entitle the holder to travel in First Class including A.C. Sleeper. Such Complimentary Card Passes are issued by the Ministry of Railways to eminent persons, organisations, devoted to social, cultural, scientific, literary, sports and other educational activities of 'All India' character, etc., based on justification/merits of each case, with the personal approval of the Minister.

(c) The number of free passes being limited, there is negligible and insignificant loss of accommodation to ticket buying public.

(d) It is a continuous process, subject to availability of resources.

Allotment of Land to Co-operative Group Housing Societies

3679. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) names of the 400 Co-operative Group Housing Societies in the forefront of consideration for land allotment in Delhi;

(b) whether Government is insisting on start landscaping plans in proposals submitted by above Societies; and

(c) what are the guide-lines in force for environment, tree-planting, parking in the proposed plans of all Co-operative Housing in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) The information is being gathered and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Foodgrains lying outside F.C.I. Godowns

3680. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) what is the quantity of foodgrains kept outside godowns by Food Corporation of India during this year;

(b) what is the godown space available from all sources to F.C.I.

(c) The estimate of losses in foodgrains during the last three years from rodents weather and due to other causes;

(d) whether all relevant information on storage, transport and all aspects of handling, etc. has been Centrally computerised by F.C.I.; and

(e) what F.C.I. is taking to modernise its operations and reduce waste and inefficiency ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL):

(a) The quantity of foodgrains kept outside under cover and plinth by FCI during

this year (January, 1990 to June, 1990) is as under :—

(Fig. in lakh MTs.)

Month	Wheat	Paddy	Tota
January, 1990	0.91	5.32	6.23
February, 1990 . . .	1.10	3.92	5.02
March, 1990	0.87	2.62	3.49
April, 1990	3.90	1.72	5.62
May, 1990	13.14	1.28	14.42
June, 1990	13.80	1.13	14.93

(b) As on 30-6-1990, the total covered storage capacity available with FCI from all sources was 179.24 lakhs tonnes.

(c) The FCI incurs transit and storage losses of foodgrains due to variety of reasons such as vagaries of weather, deterioration in quality during storage, moisture loss, losses due to multiple handling and movement etc. or due to theft and pilferage. The FCI is not maintaining any separate account of the losses of foodgrains on account of rodents. The storage and transit shortages in foodgrains during the years 1986-87 to 1988-89 were as follows :

Year	Qty. (in lakh M.T.)
1986-87	6.51
1987-88	7.01
1988-89	4.23

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The FCI has taken the following important steps to reduce storage and transit shortages :

(i) Strict enforcement of quality specifications relating to moisture during procurement of foodgrains;

(ii) Reduction in the quantum of foodgrains filled in each bag;

(iii) Installation of weigh-bridges in depots having capacity of 5000 tonnes or more;

(iv) Administrative measures such as tightening of security at depots, intensifying surprise checks, ensuring regular stock verifications etc;

(v) Augmentation of covered storage capacity;

(vi) Introduction of machine stitching of bags.

The FCI has prepared cost reduction plan with a view to reducing its operational costs. During the period from 1986-87 to 1989-90, the Corporation achieved savings in its operational cost to the extent of Rs. 667.65 crores.

New technology for fertilizer plants

3681. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are planning to bring down the minimum economic capacities for fertilizer plants to allow the use of new technology;

(b) if so, whether the new technology has recently been introduced in this sector; and

(c) if so, to what extent it would be helpful ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA) : (a) There is no proposal with the Government, at present, to bring down the minimum economic capacities for fertilizer plants to allow the use of new technology. It may, however, be